

## **Response Rates for the 2012 Census of Governments: Employment**

Preliminary data for the 2012 Census of Governments: Employment component were released on March 6, 2014. Revisions to the data were released on April 26, 2016. Most unit response rates for states were above 60 percent. Only New Mexico, at the local and the state and local government level fell below (see Table A). The Census Bureau also reports Total Quantity Response Rates (TQRR), a measure of the portion of the estimate of interest that is reported. The national level total employment TQRR was 81.9 percent and the national level total payroll TQRR was 82.2 percent for state and local governments, which is above the standard.

The TQRRs for 2012 were usually above the 70 percent standard with some notable exceptions. There are 11 states (Connecticut, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, South Dakota, Vermont, and Washington) that fall below this level for at least one key item at the local government level. See the accompanying Table B.

There are three states (Maryland, Missouri, and Nebraska) that have state government TQRRs that failed to reach 70 percent. In all states, the state government TQRRs were affected by poor response from one or two large state colleges/universities. Consequently, the data user should beware of education data from these states.

For the 2013 survey, more extensive non-response follow-up efforts will be taken to try to obtain data from the nonrespondents identified as critical prior to release of the survey's final data. Further research will be conducted on local governments to identify governmental units contributing to the low TQRRs.

**Table A: Unit Response Rates at the State and Local Level, Local Level and the State Level for the 2012 Census of Governments: Employment**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 Census of Governments: Employment

State	State and Local Level	Local Level	State Level
Alabama	74.8%	74.8%	100%
Alaska	76.0%	75.8%	100%
Arizona	80.5%	80.4%	100%
Arkansas	76.1%	76.1%	100%
California	84.5%	84.5%	100%
Colorado	76.8%	76.8%	100%
Connecticut	77.3%	77.3%	100%
Delaware	91.7%	91.7%	100%
District of Columbia	100.0%	100.0%	100%
Florida	68.7%	68.7%	100%
Georgia	86.9%	86.9%	100%
Hawaii	95.5%	95.2%	100%
Idaho	79.6%	79.6%	100%
Illinois	78.7%	78.7%	100%
Indiana	83.0%	83.0%	100%
Iowa	83.5%	83.5%	100%
Kansas	74.9%	74.9%	100%
Kentucky	83.2%	83.2%	100%
Louisiana	72.9%	72.9%	100%
Maine	84.2%	84.2%	100%
Maryland	90.3%	90.2%	100%
Massachusetts	72.3%	72.2%	100%
Michigan	77.4%	77.4%	100%
Minnesota	74.6%	74.6%	100%
Mississippi	69.5%	69.5%	100%
Missouri	79.6%	79.6%	100%
Montana	78.3%	78.3%	100%
Nebraska	71.4%	71.4%	100%
Nevada	89.0%	88.9%	100%
New Hampshire	73.0%	72.9%	100%
New Jersey	75.1%	75.1%	100%
New Mexico	53.4%	53.4%	100%
New York	82.7%	82.6%	100%

North Carolina	88.4%	88.4%	100%
North Dakota	66.2%	66.2%	100%
Ohio	74.9%	74.9%	100%
Oklahoma	81.4%	81.4%	100%
Oregon	82.7%	82.7%	100%
Pennsylvania	76.6%	76.6%	100%
Rhode Island	81.4%	81.3%	100%
South Carolina	86.4%	86.4%	100%
South Dakota	69.5%	69.5%	100%
Tennessee	85.1%	85.1%	100%
Texas	79.6%	79.6%	100%
Utah	81.7%	81.7%	100%
Vermont	66.9%	66.9%	100%
Virginia	87.0%	87.0%	100%
Washington	69.5%	69.5%	100%
West Virginia	74.6%	74.5%	100%
Wisconsin	81.2%	81.2%	100%
Wyoming	83.5%	83.5%	100%

**Table B: Noncompliant Response Rates for the 2012 Census of Governments:  
Employment**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 Census of Governments: Employment

State	Total Employees	Total Payroll
State and Local Government TQRRs (in percent)		
Massachusetts	67.6%	67.9%
New Hampshire	65.5%	67.3%
South Dakota	76.0%	69.3%
Washington	69.5%	69.1%
Local Government TQRRs (in percent)		
Connecticut	65.1%	64.2%
Louisiana	66.7%	66.5%
Massachusetts	61.1%	61.2%
Michigan	72.1%	68.4%
Mississippi	67.6%	68.8%
Montana	70.2%	69.8%
New Hampshire	54.7%	55.3%
New Jersey	66.1%	66.3%
South Dakota	65.2%	63.1%
Vermont	58.9%	60.0%
Washington	51.8%	54.7%
State Government TQRRs (in percent)		
Maryland	73.3%	69.6%
Missouri	72.0%	61.6%
Nebraska	54.9%	48.9%